

CLASSICAL WEEKLY

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WHOLE NO. 836

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VOL. 31, No. 13

FEBRUARY 14, 1938

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THE HIGH SCHOOL PROBLEM

This issue's column *In the Classroom* contains an article which will be interesting to all readers of CW. It is written by a teacher who has had wide experience with the problems of the small high school and whose primary concern is with those problems. His findings, however, also pertain ultimately to those of us who are in quite another field.

We have in CW stressed the need of sympathetic cooperation between college and secondary school teachers. This has been no idle gesture, for we are convinced that our interests, despite obvious differences, are essentially the same. No high school teacher can afford to ignore the opportunities made available by research for the enrichment of his own experience. Conversely, no scholar can remain idly indifferent when he realizes his dependence upon the students trained by the secondary school. Dr. Freeman in his article is primarily concerned with strengthening the position of Latin in the smaller communities. His words deserve the sympathetic attention of high school and college teachers alike.

C. J. K., JR.

REVIEWS

Perikles. By Hugo Willrich; pp. 304. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht, 1936. 10M.

This book by a veteran German teacher and scholar is intended for students of history in general but more especially for teachers in German Gymnasias. It is not so much a study of the career and character of Pericles as an account of Athenian history in the fifth century. Of its three almost exactly equal parts the first deals with Athenian development from Peisistratus to Cimon, the second with the period from Pericles' entry into politics to the opening of the Peloponnesian War, the third with the closing period of

Pericles' career and the subsequent course of the war.

The book is packed with detail and the treatment is sound if somewhat conventional. The author has not avoided controversial points, though he refrains from mentioning any modern scholar by name. He evidently has the ancient evidence for the period, both literary and epigraphical, at his finger tips. Since, however, the book has no footnotes (Dr. Willrich forgoes them somewhat regretfully), the author has to choose when it is necessary to mention his authority and when to omit such reference. Dr. Willrich has not always chosen wisely. For example, he states it as a fact that Pericles alone conceived the idea of the colony at Thurii. On such an important question it would be better to indicate whether he is reporting an ancient or a modern opinion. Furthermore, the book would gain greatly in vividness if the author had used direct quotation more freely, instead of paraphrase and allusion; his remarks about the scolon on Harmodius and Aristogeiton, for example, or the Thermopylae epitaphs of Simonides might well be replaced by the mere quotation of a few lines in translation. A similar criticism might be made about his discussion of Periclean art and architecture; the general reader is unlikely to appreciate his remarks without the aid of illustrations.

In other respects the treatment of the political history is admirable. Emphasis is laid on the part played by religious considerations in Greek politics: how Cleisthenes was careful to name his new tribes after heroes, how the average Athenian could not tolerate the suggestion of moving his city to the Peiraeus, since such a move would involve abandoning the civic deities. There are also numerous enlightening remarks about military affairs: the Athenians' inability to estimate the numbers of the Persian forces because lack of money (though this is not the only reason) made armaments on such a scale

inconceivable for Greek states, their lack of geographical knowledge, their conservatism in face of the proposals of Themistocles. There is a clear account of how Athenian imperial status was regularized, with many appeals to inscriptions and coins, and an equally good discussion of the situation in 455-451 B.C. in the light of the tribute lists. On the other hand, it is surprising to find the Peace of Callias taken for granted, without any indication that its existence has been disputed.

The treatment of social questions is less happy. Dr. Willrich accepts the complaints of Aristophanes about the gilded youth and the anecdotes about Alcibiades rather too readily; at the same time he takes great pains to make Aspasia into an honest woman. He is most sceptical about any stories detrimental to Pericles' reputation, and inclined to idealize his hero unduly. Indeed his critical treatment of Pericles is disappointing. The Funeral Oration is quoted in paraphrase but not discussed, and by way of a final verdict he quotes the eulogy of Thucydides in 2.65. The opposition of the oligarchs is explained on purely selfish grounds. He does not raise the question whether the unchallenged supremacy of Pericles can be held responsible for the lack of competent democratic statesmen subsequently. He accepts Pericles as the true Athenian democrat, without any critical discussion of Athenian democracy as a form of government.

LIONEL PEARSON

Dalhousie University
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The Exultet Rolls of South Italy. Vol. II, Plates. By Myrtila Avery; fol., pp. 54, 206 collotype plates. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1937.¹ (Illuminated Manuscripts of the Middle Ages, issued by the Department of Art and Archaeology of Princeton University) \$20.00

The Exultet rolls, peculiar to the service of the semi-Byzantine church of South Italy from the late ninth through the thirteenth century, were read at the lighting of the huge Easter candle. Their best known feature, perhaps, is the placing of the miniatures upside-down² so that worshippers standing near the deacon's lectern could see the scenes right side up while the deacon read from text running in the opposite direction. The present volume of plates (printed in Germany at the Ganymed Press) reproduces all the scenes in the twenty-eight known Exultet rolls (or fragments) together with those of three

closely allied liturgical rolls—the *Benedictio Fontis* of Bari and the Pontifical and *Benedictio Fontis* in the Casanatense Library, Rome—and in addition illustrative material from other sources. A volume of text will soon be forthcoming.

The present publication is the result of considerable labor by the author, whom the reviewer had the good fortune to meet in Rome in 1925, when she had already made important studies in this field. Among her arduous tasks was a house-to-house canvass of families in Kärnten who were said to have picked up codices and books that fell along the wayside when the library of the monastery of St. Blasius was transferred in wagons to Kärnten in 1805. The Frick Art Reference Library of New York supplied the funds for the photographs of the rolls and the comparative material.³ Not only were photographs produced in the ordinary way in Rome, Pisa, Paris, and London, but two special trips to South Italy were made by skilled photographers to cover the Exultet rolls from Monte Cassino to Bari, and frescoes and manuscripts in Campania and the Abruzzi. In two special fields experts were consulted and their testimony printed verbatim: Dr. E. A. Lowe, on the script of the rolls, and Dom Gabriel Beyssac, on the musical notation (neums) accompanying the text. Numerous others were responsible for various suggestions. Actual publication was made possible by the financial support of Dr. James B. Munn.

The plates leave little to be desired, though practical considerations unfortunately prevented reproducing the miniatures in their actual size. They are admirable specimens of collotype work,⁴ arranged in a large portfolio as separate sheets,⁵ each with a brief title in the upper left margin and with running descriptions beside the illustrations. In many cases the length of the illustrations in the rolls requires a double plate (eleven by thirty inches), folded at the top. The price of the volume must be less than the actual cost of production. This wealth of material, presented in lavish fashion, will be sure to advance our knowledge of mediaeval drawing, painting, and iconography.

In addition to the plates themselves the present volume contains a list of plates (pp. 1-6), descriptive notes (7-45), Appendix A (diagrams of Vat. lat. 9820, showing the order of the scenes as they appeared originally in the tenth century

³ The Frick negatives have been used for all except forty-four of the plates.

⁴ Despite popular belief to the contrary, collotype work equally good is done in the United States, particularly by the Meriden Gravure Company.

⁵ Binding would have been impracticable in this case, though for a number of heavy plates it is generally preferable.

¹ The title page, however, reads: MDCCCXXXVI.

² In many rolls, however, the scenes run in the same direction as the text.

roll and as they were rearranged in the twelfth century reconstruction: 46-49), Appendix B (on the sixty-five drawings of South Italian subjects in the National Library of Naples: 50), a general (subject) index to the plates (51), and finally an iconographical index to the plates (52-53). The descriptive notes for each roll contain brief title, present location, date, provenience, and indications concerning its width and length (or the number of known fragments if the manuscript is no longer preserved in the form of a roll), script (Beneventan in all except four instances), text (either the *Vetus Itala* or the *Vulgate*), neums,⁶ illumination (including many repainted scenes), notes on the plates (some of which contain baffling idiosyncrasies), and bibliography.

The width of the space occupied by the script, the size of the margins, the number and position of pin-pricks, and other minutiae which are often important to palaeographers, are usually not noted. The usefulness of such details is amply demonstrated by the proper identification of a certain fragment as a part of Vat. lat. 9820—an identification which depends upon the perfect joining made by the ragged bottom with the ragged top of the scene which follows it in the manuscript (p. 31 and note 4).

The author deserves nothing but praise for her work. It will be interesting to see what use is made of this material in the forthcoming text volume, for which discussion and argument are rightly reserved.

LESLIE WEBBER JONES

College of the City of New York

La vie d'Achille, illustrée par les vases grecs. Récits tirés de l'Iliade d'Homère et des poèmes cycliques, traduits librement par Annie Rivier; pp. vii, 145, 51 figs. Lausanne: Payot, 1936. 30 fr.

The avowed purpose of this little book is to incite those who do not know Greek to study the language or at least to enjoy the charms of Greek vase-painting. The life of Achilles is the theme for a selection of passages from Homer and for illustrations from vases.

In the introduction, a sketch of Achilles' early life, and in the epilogue, an account of the events after the close of the Iliad, the cyclic epics are followed. The remainder of the book is a simplified translation of those portions of the Iliad centering around Achilles. Chapter I gives Book I of the Iliad almost entire; chapter II the beginning of II and much of XI; chapter III, the end of XV and most of XVI; chapter IV, XVIII, omitting the

description of the shield, and XIX, much cut; the end of XXI and most of XXII make up chapter V, while XXIV fills chapter VI. A few rudimentary notes comment on various mythological points.

The resulting narrative necessarily seems childish to anyone familiar with the original. Brevity is attained by the omission of irrelevant passages, repetitions, epithets, genealogies, and most of the similes and descriptions. Thus shorn of the characteristic epic repetitiveness and poetic richness, it becomes a bald, rapid, and unified short story. By keeping close to the text, it has retained an effective simplicity that escapes both the dryness and the pomposity of many English translations. It avoids, however, the human touch of Homer in those passages that most of us remember best (e.g. Book VI and the end of Book XXII).

The 51 photographs show vase-paintings dated between the years ca. 650 and 420 B.C. Scholarly references are given and accurate dates within periods of a half-century. An Apollo by the Berlin Painter, fig. 11 on p. 14, is dated, obviously by a misprint, to the late fifth rather than to the late sixth century. The selection is made merely for the illustrative quality of the subjects. The pictures are well chosen and well reproduced.

This book is, then, a typical 'oeuvre de vulgarisation'. One suspects that the author wrote it primarily for her own pleasure. For she addresses herself to adults, not to school children, and an adult scarcely needs a predigested version of a book not difficult to read in complete translation. In America, the only audience to whom the book could be recommended is that of those school teachers of French who have a taste for the martial passages of the Iliad.

DOROTHY BURR THOMPSON

Athens, Greece

Palestine and Israel. Historical Notes. By Flinders Petrie; pp. x, 99, 16 plates. London: SPCK, 1934. 3s. 6d.

It was an impressive event in this reviewer's life when as one of a group of students of archaeology, he visited Petrie's camp at Tell el Ajjul, near Gaza. Not content with directing, aided by a dozen assistants, a staff of 300 Arab laborers, the venerable Egyptologist and founder of scientific digging in Palestine, was then engaged in recording his views on the Egyptian and Palestinian aspects of Israelite history for a wider public than his technical writings had reached. This little volume is the fruit of his labors, and embodies among other things the results of his discoveries in relatively popular form.

⁶ Studied from the author's photographs by Dom Beyssac.

Beginning with the artifacts of the Stone and Copper (for the more usual Chalcolithic) Ages, the author introduces the reader to the successive civilizations which flourished in pre-Biblical Palestine and 'the groundwork upon which Israelite history arose.' The history proper opens, in Petrie's view, with Abraham. Indeed, the narrative of the Patriarchs and their families is considered to have 'been written up from a correct historical register of events,' the date of Abraham's migration into Canaan being fixed at 1805 B. C. While many readers will come away from this controversial subject unconverted, Petrie's discussion of the chronology of the Israelite entry into Canaan (Chapter VII), which he fixes at 1186, is worthy of serious consideration. He does well also to devote some space to the appearance of iron toward the close of the 13th century, an archaeological point which the Biblical student is apt to miss. The presentation being based essentially on the materials the author has himself excavated, it is not entirely surprising that the four and a half centuries of the Hebrew monarchy receive only a dozen pages.

Petrie's brief work touches on a great variety of moot questions, and it is undoubtedly healthful for the student to be confronted with views which so frequently conflict with the accepted solutions. There are, nevertheless, certain matters in which Petrie's fellow-historians will be unable to endorse the author's judgment, such as his characterization of the period of the Judges as 'apparently one of degradation, and loss of what civilisation had been brought from Egypt.' Elsewhere, his analogy between such historical repetitions as Caesar's invasions of Britain and the recurrence of the same motif in the stories of Genesis, such as the digging of wells at Beersheba ('The Seven Wells'), begs the question rather shockingly. One is likewise surprised that neither the section on 'Religion in Palestine' (Chapter VI) nor any other alludes to the chief Canaanite deities, Baal and Astarte. It remains, however, a handy, nicely illustrated volume.

New York City

JOSHUA STARR

SHORTER NOTICES

Storia dell' arte. 1, *L'arte pre-cristiana nell' Egitto, nella Caldea, nell' Assiria, nella Persia, nella Fenicia, nella Palestina, nell' Asia Minore, nella Grecia, nell' Etruria, in Roma e nell' Impero Romano.* By Mario Tansardini; pp. 273. Rome: Angelico, 1936. 10L.

The first of a projected series dealing with the history of art. The avowed purpose is to present a text to be used by mixed classes and therefore all references to works of art of doubtful moral character have been carefully avoided. In an elementary text such as this, the loss is not noticed. There are divisions dealing with Egyptian, Mesopotamian,

Persian, Phoenician, Hebraic, Ionic, Hittite, Greek and Roman art. Each division is reduced into sections concerning architecture, sculpture, painting and the minor arts. The text is clear and simple and the information is up-to-date and accurate. The author indulges in little theorizing but is content to state the problem when necessary. It should prove an excellent means for Classical and Fine Arts students to renew their Italian.

Recent Discoveries of Biblical Papyri. By H. I. Bell; pp. 31. New York: Oxford University Press, 1937. (Inaugural Lecture delivered before the University of Oxford on 18 Nov., 1936) \$0.75

This is a summary of the surprisingly large number of publications of biblical texts which have appeared during the past ten or a dozen years. Dr. Bell does more than describe the new discoveries; he attempts to place them in their proper position in biblical studies, and draws from them an evaluation of their importance to the whole field of paleography. His conclusions are significant: (1) Christian readers showed a decided preference for the cheaper vellum codex rather than the relatively expensive papyrus roll and were the influence back of the supersession of the latter; (2) the four Gospels may have been very early in circulation as a corpus in a single codex; (3) the soundness of our text of the New Testament is confirmed and the probability asserted that variant readings crept in only during the early period when the texts were still fresh and not widely circulated; (4) Christians were to be found in Middle, and perhaps Upper Egypt, by 150 A.D.; (5) the interrelation of papyrus studies to all other fields of classical studies is increasingly evident. This is a brilliant pamphlet which deserves the reading of students of the literature of the early Christian centuries.

Der Typus des hellenistisch-ägyptischen Hauses im Anschluss an Baubeschreibungen griechischer Papyrusurkunden. By Alfred R. Schütz; pp. vii, 77. Würzburg: Tritsch, 1936. (Dissertation) 2.50M.

Dr. Schütz adduces the papyrological evidence (cited in full, 1-4) to the problem of the Hellenistic house. In a methodical manner he distinguishes between the southern or portico type of house common in the Near East and the northern or chambered type characteristic of Macedon, then proceeds, on the basis of tombs and dwellings in Egypt, Mesopotamia and the Hellenistic Greek world, to reconstruct the ground plan of the main rooms, the subsidiary accommodations (baths, courtyard, bakeries, stables etc.) and the gardens. He follows this with a discussion of structural details: the development of socle and entablature, the prevalent wall decorations ('zone' and 'first Pompeian' styles), architectural features (roof, doors and windows) which affected decoration, and concludes with a brief treatment of building materials, discussing chiefly wood and tiles. The work suffers from lack of illustrations and diagrams and makes no pretense of being exhaustive but is valuable as a fresh synthesis of the papyrological and archeological evidence.

Ankara und Augustus. By M. Schede and H. St. Schultz; pp. 68. Berlin: de Gruyter, 1937. (Archäologisches Institut des Deutschen Reiches, Abteilung Istanbul) 2M.

Martin Schede has already earned the gratitude of scholars for the magnificent photographs of the

Monumentum Ancyranum which he took under very difficult circumstances. The present booklet now makes available in compact form all the information which is necessary (and has so long been inaccessible) for the understanding of the physical aspect of the temple of Augustus and Rome at Ancyra. A sketch of the present appearance of the monument and a description of its architectural features (5-24) is followed by a sketch of the ruler-cult and its local relationships (25-36), a short history of the temple which was in later times converted into a church and later into a mosque (36-40), a resumé of its rediscovery by modern scholars (40-41). The last half of the brochure (42-68) presents a translation not only of the Monumentum Ancyranum (by Dr. Schultz) but of the six other inscriptions found on the site.

Despite its size, this is a valuable book which well deserves translation into English in order to increase the circle of readers who may profit by its readable text, its splendid photographs and plans and the scholarly competence of its author.

FROM THE EDITOR'S MAIL

I do not wish to quarrel with my friend John Scott, but in your issue of November 15th (CW 31 [1937] 37-38), in reviewing my book *Homeric Studies*, he writes: 'Mr. Smith has been much influenced by the earlier writings of Leaf and this book would have been warmly welcomed by that great scholar, could he have seen it thirty years ago, but Leaf completely changed his position in his latest writings, as is shown by his work on Troy.' I have several letters from Leaf which would indicate that, if indeed he changed, he switched back again in the last years of his life, for on May 11, 1926 he wrote: 'I must say that your result strikes me as very remarkable. The principles on which you have proceeded in separating the strata are, in my opinion, sound. The Poem of the Wrath to which they have led you is certainly in itself a justification of the methods by which it has been reached. It seems to make a smooth and rounded whole.' And two months before his death, on January 13, 1927 he writes: 'It is for you and men like you to be champions of the good cause.'

ROBINSON SMITH

12 Rue de France
Nice, France

I am very glad that Mr. Smith received these encouraging letters from Mr. Leaf. They seem entirely in agreement with his earlier position but utterly opposed to what he wrote in his *Troy*, pages 12 and 169. In his earlier writings he said that it was 'impossible to reconcile Homeric geographical statements with themselves or with each other,' but in his *Troy* he wrote, 'it is a remarkable fact that, so far as I can judge, no case of local inconsistency, not a single anachronism, can be brought home to the *Iliad*.' 'One thing has

passed from me beyond all doubt; the poet has put in living words a tradition founded on real fighting in this very place.'

JOHN A. SCOTT

Northwestern University
Evanston, Ill.

IN THE CLASSROOM

Edited by Robert H. Chastney, Townsend Harris
High School, New York, N. Y.

All correspondence concerning this department should be directed to Dr. Chastney.

Latin and the Smaller Communities

Some time ago a letter came to me from a Latin teacher in a suburban community with a request for suggestions for combatting a tendency on the part of the administration in her high school toward pushing Latin into the background and letting it be dropped eventually from the curriculum. The letter added that the same tendency was apparent toward all foreign language work and that the time previously allotted to it was to be given to commercial subjects and social studies.

As one looks over the present day language situation comprehensively it is not difficult to notice evidence of the same tendency in many localities, whether these localities are large or small, big cities or small communities. Intentionally or not, school authorities do not seem to be combatting vigorously the present trend in education which looks toward clearing the paths of pupils of those subjects — particularly Latin — which insist upon prolonged and cumulative effort for success. How much of this tendency is inevitable is hard to determine. It may be entirely due to the changed order of society or to the increased population of the high schools, not all of which is of pronounced scholarly caliber. Some of the blame for the tendency may well be laid at the door of school officers in charge of program making. Whatever the reason, the fact is that within the last few years certain academic high schools of long standing have presented such restricted curricula that they no longer merit the designation 'academic' as ordinarily employed.

While it is not difficult to realize that the active support of Latin instruction in the larger cities presents some problems, I am particularly interested in this article in the Latin situation in the smaller centers. In larger communities, with their great masses of students there are usually enough pupils anxious to study Latin to ensure classes large enough to demand attention. This may be accorded grudgingly, but it is given. In the smaller communities fewer pupils elect Latin, the school budget is more restricted, and administrators are less impressed by the wishes of

minority groups. To my mind the Latin situation in the smaller communities should receive immediate and persistent attention. In them is found our first line of defense. Once broken through, the chances for continuing Latin instruction in the larger centers will be less assured. In the smaller communities we need to place well prepared and enthusiastic teachers capable of assuring and maintaining interest in Latin. To the taxpayers in these communities we should point out the inexpensiveness of Latin instruction; its small drain on the school budget; that, once the textbooks are secured, the only expense is the payment of the teacher's salary. They should also be informed of the difference in the amounts of money allotted to the commercial branches, shops, science, etc., for equipment. In the smaller communities, too, we need administrators whose educational philosophy impels them to give particular thought to the few who elect Latin or indeed the modern languages as well. Just as it was a mistake in the last generation to force a college preparatory program on all students indiscriminately, so now it is unfair to disregard the interests of a few students in the midst of the great number of average or below average pupils. This does not mean that all Latin students are above the average: it is true, however, that most pupils who elect Latin do welcome its mental challenge. Outstanding pupils deserve outstanding support, and, if they elect Latin, modern languages, or advanced mathematics, they should be treated at least reasonably. But how often these few are assigned to ignoble classrooms, small, out of the way, poorly equipped, and to teachers who seem to have been chosen by accident. I have seen Latin classes in session on stairways. In one school Vergil was being taught in the typewriting room where the textbooks were supported on the typewriter keys. In another school Latin was relegated to the sewing room where books were tilted against the machines. Good students do not thrive well under such conditions nor do teachers maintain a strong morale. In our families at home we do not starve a child who shows artistic or literary powers just to keep all our children on the same level. We usually make possible every bit of development that lies within that particular child. A year or so ago an offer was made from an outside source to one of our smaller communities to pay for a teacher of Greek at the high school if the administration was agreeable. The offer was rejected because, as the superintendent remarked, the pupils did not want Greek. At a meeting of the Board of Education the question was raised as to whether the high school students had been informed of the possibility of studying Greek

and had been allowed to make application for the course. The reply was that no information had been given them. Their rejection of Greek apparently was taken for granted or was established for them by the superintendent. Still, in that community if six students of defective eyesight apply for a special class such a class is mandatory and the community must stand the expense. The appeal of the six is immediate and compelling; Greek was disregarded entirely even at no cost to the community. Such cases cause one to reiterate that in the smaller communities we need administrators interested in the programs of the smaller groups as well as the larger.

The question of teachers for Latin classes in the smaller communities is perplexing. Administrators appear at times to look upon these classes as mere inconveniences to be cared for as chance offers. Those which can be accounted for by the regular staff members are assigned; the remaining take their chance, probably on the basis that 'anyone can teach Latin.' It is for this reason that agencies supplying teachers are asked for this kind of Proteus, a teacher of general science, business English, and Latin. Here is a rare combination and one which, if it could be properly filled, ought to command a real salary. A year ago I knew of the case of a young man who was hired to teach science and was given a class in Latin to fill out his schedule. It made no difference that this young man had had no Latin instruction beyond two years in high school. Such cases could be increased without end. The fact that they occur indicates the need for vigorous action. I have heard it said about one community that when one tries to talk about Latin to the administration he cannot get to first base. The arguments used to discourage further discussion are usually the type of the community, the budget, or the greatest benefit for the greatest number. I feel that there is often another reason—the individual attitude of the administrator in charge. Some administrators are especially enthusiastic for some subject in which they did well in their high school days and let it influence their thought in program making; some reach administrative position from classroom work of non-academic type. It is hardly to be expected that these administrators should feel much interested in the continuance of definite subjects. It is such officers that ask for teachers of general science, business English, and Latin. For this reason it is more to the credit of a superintendent who rises from shop work and vocational guidance if he stands solidly for the languages in a small community.

I mentioned a moment ago that in the smaller communities we need vigorous action to ensure the continuance of Latin at the first line of de-

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fense. But what action? First, I believe we should have dynamic Latin teachers at these posts. The day has passed when Latin teachers can feel that their subject has been traditional for so long that it, and their positions, are secure. Secondly, I believe that interest in Latin should be increased by promotion work in the Junior high schools either by talks to pupils or the presentation of Latin plays or Latin exhibitions in school assemblies. Lastly, I believe a distinct effort should be made by capable speakers to influence administrators to maintain in high school programs real opportunities for students who wish to study Latin during the period of their high school education.

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Essential Latin. By Wilmont H. Thompson, H. L. Tracy, and Rosalie A. Dugit; pp. xvii, 514. New York: Oxford University Press, 1936. \$1.75

Essential Latin is organized on the sound pedagogical principle that the primary purpose of the study of Latin is to learn to read Latin. Along with the many necessary working exercises there runs a connected, instructive, and interesting story of the daily life of a Roman boy and girl, Marcus and Virginia. The Latin of this story is of necessity largely 'made' Latin, but adaptations of various classical authors give a Roman flavor never quite attained by a modern writer.

A difference in presentation from that of the usual beginner's book is that of teaching all four conjugations together. This enables the pupil to realize more easily that the tense formation (except future) is practically the same in all four conjugations and that the personal endings are the same.

Another difference from the old type text is the teaching of some topics earlier than the traditional practice, e.g., indirect discourse. Many books and teachers attack this subject as if it were almost insurmountable and forever establish a failure complex in the child's mind. Essential Latin starts with the assumption that the rule in Latin is simple. The tenses of the infinitive and the use of reflexive pronouns are mastered separately and fixed through frequent repetition. Adequate attention is given the proper English translation of the participle in expressing the idea of an entire clause. Since Essential Latin is primarily intended for Canadian boys and girls, it would be of interest to us

to know if it is designed to be used more than one year. In adapting Latin into modern trends of education in this country Latin high school texts of the last decades have shown a marked tendency never to do today what can be put off until tomorrow. This has resulted in more and more syntax being postponed to later years. Essential Latin embraces the fundamentals of Latin syntax.

The reviewer has not gone through this little book scrutinizing each word with pedagogic glee in the hope of finding misprints, typographical errors and other infelicities, a few of which inevitably creep into a book dealing with so many forms. In this text, however, there are surprisingly few oversights. Some noted are: the second e of *Helvëtiôrum* (139) should be marked long; other long quantities not indicated are the i of *villa* (149), the first i of *milia* (149), the a of *dëspërâns* (235), the u of *frûctibus* (265). The a of *Mârcus* is everywhere written as short, despite the fact that inscriptional evidence points to a long a. The authors also cling to the long first vowel in *peius*, *maius*, *signum*, *maximum*. But as far as beginning pupils are concerned, the question of disputed quantities is of little importance.

Alice in Wonderland's rhetorical question 'What is the use of a book without pictures?' no longer applies to beginning Latin books. However, it is only in recent years that the publishers of Latin texts have followed the example of Comenius when he published in the seventeenth century the first illustrated Latin school book. Such books have not realized the hope of Comenius that they would take the 'scarecrows out of wisdom's garden', but they have been effective aids in arousing interest in the study of Latin. The illustrations of Essential Latin are outstanding in several particulars. They include original illustrations by C. V. Collins, pictures of antiquities found in the Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology, original photographs taken by classical scholars, teachers, and the Ente Nazionale Industrie Turistiche. This last set of pictures features not merely the rare beauty of Italy but the latest excavations of archaeological interest. As a whole, the visualization aids in this book give the student a vivid background of Roman life. In avoiding the Scylla of a dull, uninteresting page, the authors have not fallen into the Charybdis of the somewhat prevalent practice of turning a Latin book into a child's picture book.

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ABSTRACTS OF ARTICLES

Edited by Francis R. B. Godolphin, Princeton University,
Princeton, N. J.

All correspondence concerning this department should be directed to Professor Godolphin. The system of abbreviation used is that of Marouzeau in *L'Année Philologique*. For list of periodicals regularly abstracted and for full names of abstractors see the index number to each volume of CW.

Ancient Authors

Josephus. Richards, G. C. and R. J. H. Shutt—*Critical Notes on Josephus' Antiquities*. No editor has sufficiently used the Latin version made under the direction of Cassiodorus from a Greek MS some six or seven centuries older than any now extant. Many examples given showing how the text can be bettered by this means.

CQ 31 (1937) 170-177 (Fine)

Plato. Baldry, H. C.—*Plato's 'Technical Terms'*. Discussion of such words as *eidos*, *idea*, *metechein*, *koinōnein*, etc. in fifth and early fourth century literature, showing how the meaning of these words had developed before Plato began to use them as 'technical terms'.

CQ 31 (1937) 141-150 (Fine)

—, Howland, R. L.—*The Attack on Isocrates in the Phaedrus*. The Phaedrus is primarily an attack on the educational system of Isocrates in which Isocrates' own words—especially those used in the Helen—are turned against himself. In a detailed analysis of the Phaedrus the author shows that the two chief criticisms of Isocrates are (1) that he fails to teach rhetoric correctly since he does not make use of dialectic and (2) that rhetoric, the art of writing discourses, is of no real importance.

CQ 31 (1937) 151-159 (Fine)

Plutarch. Kind, F. Ernst—*Zu Plutarch*. In Plutarch's *De Sera Numinis Vindicta* 567 F Nero comes to life in the form of a viper. For Πινδαρική Kind suggests the emendation Τυνδαρική. The relationship Nero-Agrippina-Claudius suggests Orestes-Clytemnestra-Agamemnon: hence the epithet.

H 72 (1937) 127-128 (Greene)

Sappho. Pfeiffer, Rudolf—*Vier Sappho-Strophen auf einem ptolemäischen Ostrakon*. Critical work on the text of Sappho fragment published earlier this year by Medea Norsa (*Annali della R. Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa*, Serie 2, vol. 6, fasc. 1-2 [1937] 8-15) involving rearrangement of fragmentary beginning so that it now appears as the real beginning of the poem. The last part, already known from citation by Athenaeus (11.463 C), ends the fourth strophe, but the Athenaeus text goes on in prose which, by changing the order of two words, becomes a Sapphic line and is probably the first line of a fifth strophe.

Ph 92 (1937) 117-125 (Hough)

Tacitus. Mentz, Arthur—*Die Notae der Germanen bei Tacitus*. Discussion of Germania 10, where Tacitus describes the method of soothsaying by drawing lots with marks on them. Follows the theory that these marks were runes. Overcomes the difficulty in time by accepting the suggestion that the runes were bound up with a north-Italian dialect and so, at the latest, originated in the second century B.C.

RhM 86 (1937) 193-205 (Allen)

Vergiliana. Helm, Rudolf—*Ein Epilog zur Cirisfrage*. (1) From parallels between Ciris and Virgil's three principal works, where Ciris passages are inept reminiscences of Virgil, Helm concludes Ciris

a late work. (2) Dedicated not to Messalla Corvinus, but to some other, youthful Messalla. (3) Work of a young man, hence not Virgil. (4) Ciris has Ovidian reminiscences. (5) A late product of Alexandrianism, perhaps as late as early decades of Christian era.

H 72 (1937) 78-103 (Greene)

Xenophon. Oldfather, W. A.—*Xenophon, Anab. III, 2, 24, ὁδοποιεῖν with the Accusative*. Defends MSS αὐτοῖς on the basis of the Anonymus Byzantinus, *Peri stratēgikēs*, 13.23, where a similar construction is found.

PhQ 16 (1937) 219-220 (Spaeth)

History. Social Studies

Köstermann, Erich—*'Status' als politischer Terminus in der Antike*. A study of the varied political meanings of 'status' from the time of Cicero to the middle of the fourth century.

RhM 86 (1937) 225-240 (Allen)

Münzer, Friedrich—*Die römischen Vestalinnen bis zur Kaiserzeit (Fortsetzung und Schluss)*. Further detailed study of references to Vestal virgins and the stories of their punishments for sins or escape therefrom adds to knowledge of their exact names, families, and the probable truth of the stories. Conclusions are drawn from the method of presentation, the presence or absence of names, depending on the type of sin and punishment. In earlier years the pontifices maximi, in charge of punishment and in control over publication of names, named only those who were buried alive for violated chastity, but left those who were merely whipped for the lesser sin of letting the fire go out, nameless. The fearful exposures of the year 115 B.C. involving almost criminal negligence on the part of the pontiffs, led to greater publicity of defections and caused search among the records of the past, which yielded only a few names here and there of those who died in disgrace (and these were known chiefly because of the prominence of their families). Consequently interpolation of names was made on the bases of later or private tradition, e.g. Pinaria, Sextilia, Minucia.

Ph 92 (1937) 199-222 (Hough)

Seyrig, H.—*Note sur Hérodién, prince de Palmyre*. Evidence from an inscription of Palmyra and from two lead tesserae (probably of Antioch), for Herodianus, eldest son of Odenathus, who joined the Romans in war on Persia (A.D. 261-264). He is mistakenly called Herodes in S.H.A., xxx Tyranni, 15.

Syr 18 (1937) 1-4 (Downey)

Solari, Arturo—*La politica orientale del Principato Palmireno*. Discusses the gradual disappearance of friendly relations between Rome (under Gallienus and Claudius Gothicus) and Palmyra (under the two kings Odenathus), culminating in Aurelian's attack upon Palmyra, forced upon him by the nationalist sympathies and consequent unrest in Palmyra instigated by Zenobia, wife of Odenathus II and chief influence on Vaballathus, his son and successor.

Ph 92 (1937) 239-243 (Hough)

Epigraphy. Palaeography. Numismatics

Page, Denys L.—*A New Fragment of a Greek Tragedy*. Papyrus-text now on permanent loan to the Ashmolean. Eighteen or nineteen lines in col. 1, nineteen in col. 2. Text written in third century B.C. The Meleagros theme.

CQ 31 (1937) 178-181 (Fine)

Schwyzler, Hans-Rudolf—*Der Ptolemaeus Codex Vindobonensis Phil. Graecus 226*. Description of MS and relation of it to other MSS. Partial collation. RhM 86 (1937) 270-285 (Allen)

Torrey, Charles C.—*Aramaic Graffiti on Coins of Demetrius*. Inscriptions in Aramaic on tetradrachms of Alexander the Great show that the Jews in Egypt did not abandon the use of their language as has been supposed. Num. Notes and Mons. No. 77 (Weber)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Compiled from publishers' trade lists, American, British, French, German, Italian and Spanish. Some errors and omissions in these lists are inevitable, but CW makes every effort to ensure accuracy and completeness. Books received immediately upon publication (or before appearance in the trade lists) are given a brief descriptive notice. Prospective reviewers who have not previously written for CW and who wish to submit sample reviews are urged to choose unnoticed books accessible to them in libraries.

Ancient Authors

Aeschylus and Euripides—Three Greek Plays, Prometheus Bound, Agamemnon, The Trojan Women, translated with introductions by Edith Hamilton; pp. 239. New York: Norton, 1937. \$2.50

Excellent translations adapted for stage presentation. Brief introductions precede the translations and two short essays present the author's views on translating and meter.

Augustine. Freyer, Ilse—*Erlebte und systematische Gestaltung in Augustins Konfessionen*. Versuch e. Analyse ihrer inneren Form; pp. 238. Berlin: Junker u. Dünhaupt, 1937. (Dissertation) 10M.

Galen—*De causis procatactricis libellus*, a Nicolao Regino in sermonem Latinum translatus. Ad codicum fidem recensuit, in Graecum sermonem retro vertit Kurt Bardong; pp. xxxiii, 64. Leipzig and Berlin: Teubner, 1937. (Corpus medicorum Graecarum. Supplementum 2) 6.20M.

Homer—*Iliade*, T. III, edited and translated by Paul Mazon. Paris: Les Belles Lettres, 1937. 40fr.

Plato—*Oeuvres complètes*. T. III, Banquet, Phédon, Phèdre, Théétète, Parménide; pp. 608. Paris: Garnier, 1937. 18fr.

Thucydides. Bizer, Fritz—*Untersuchungen zur Archäologie des Thukydides*; pp. 60. Bottrop i. W.: Postberg, 1937. (Dissertation)

Literary History. Criticism

Schwab, Gustav—*Die schönsten Sagen des klassischen Altertums*. In neuer Bearb. v. Theodor Böhner; pp. 424, ill., 8 pls. Berlin: Ullstein, 1937. 4.80M.

History. Social Studies

Apelt, Heinrich—*Die Urteilsichtigkeit im römischen Prozess*; pp. iii, 170. Schramberg: Gatzert u. Hahn, 1936

Cruveilhier, Pierre—*Introduction au code d'Hammourabi*; pp. 172. Paris: Leroux, 1937. 100fr.

Cumont, Franz—*L'Égypte des Astrologues*; pp. 254. Brussels: Fondation Égyptologique Reine Elisabeth, 1937

Very fully annotated treatment of social background of astrological texts. The book has wider importance than its title suggests.

Delaporte, Drioton, Piganiol, Cohen—*L'antiquité*; 20 et 30 cartes sur dépliants. Paris: Presses universitaires, 1937. 36fr.

Dimitrakos, Georgios—*Demetrios Poliorketes und Athen*; pp. 94. Hamburg: Christians, 1937. (Dissertation)

Dopsch, Alfons—*The Economic and Social Foundations of European Civilization*, translated from the German by M. G. Beard and Nadine Marshall; pp. 418. New York: Harcourt, 1937. \$5.00

Falchi, Giuseppino Ferruccio—*Diritto penale romano*. Vol. I, Dottrine generali; second edition revised and enlarged, pp. 238. Padua: Zannoni, 1937. 30L.

—*Diritto penale romano*. Vol. III, Procedura; pp. 126. Padua: Zannoni, 1937. 20L.

Frangos, Johannes D.—*Die Unmöglichkeit der Leistung nach dem griechischen Entwurf eines bürgerlichen Rechts (Recht d. Schuldverhältnisse)*; pp. 82. Würzburg: Triltsch, 1937. (Dissertation)

Fraser, A. D.—*The Potamic System of the Trojan Plain*; pp. 77, 5 maps. Charlottesville: Jameson Book Store, 1937. \$1.00

Study of the rivers of the Trojan Plain in Homeric times. A sound contribution to Homeric studies.

Frese, Benedikt—*Der obrigkeitliche und der prozessuale Zwang im römischen Recht*; pp. 229-265. Pavia: Fusi, 1935

Ionides, M. G.—*The Regime of the Rivers Euphrates and Tigris*; pp. 278. London: Spon, 1937. 32s.

Pommeray, L.—*Études sur l'infamie en droit romain*; pp. 290. Paris: Recueil Sirey, 1937. 50fr.

Seel, Otto—*Römische Denker und römischer Staat*; pp. iv, 98. Leipzig: Teubner, 1937 (Neue Wege zur Antike, I Reihe, H. 13) 5.20M.

Epigraphy. Paleography. Numismatics

Académie des inscriptions et belles lettres—*Fonds d'épigraphie grecque*. Fasc. IV, Inscriptions de Delos. Décrets postérieurs à 166 av. J. C. Dédicace publ. par P. Roussel et M. Launey; pp. 260. Paris: Champion, 1937. 350fr.

Seidl, Erwin—*Demotische Urkundenlehre nach den früh-ptolemäischen Texten*. Vortr. geh. auf d. 5. internat. Papyrologentag zu Oxford am 31 Aug. 1937; pp. 28. Munich: Beck, 1937 (Münchener Beiträge zur Papyrusforschung u. antiken Rechtsgeschichte, H. 27) 1.80M.

Philosophy. Religion. Science

Bock, Emil—*Urchristentum*. I, Cäsaren und Apostel; pp. 288, ill. Stuttgart: Urachhaus, 1937. (Beiträge zur Geistesgeschichte d. Menschheit, Reihe 2) 6.20 M.

Karrer, Otto—*Urchristliche Zeugen*. Das Urchristentum nach den ausserbiblischen Dokumenten bis 150 n. Chr. Übers. u. erkl.; pp. 249. Innsbruck, Vienna, Munich: Tyrolia, 1937. 4.80M.

Schütze, Alfred—*Mithras-Mysterien und Urchristentum*; pp. 133, 29 plates. Stuttgart: Urachhaus, 1937. 3.30M.

Textbooks

Grose-Hodge, H. and E. W. Davies—*Verrines in Sicily*. Being selections from Cicero's Verrine Orations; pp. 133. New York: Macmillan, 1935. \$0.64

Selections from the Verrine orations. Arranged for human interest. Vocabulary and notes.

Henle, Robert J.—*First Year Latin*; pp. 394. Chicago: Loyola University Press, 1937. \$1.32

—*Latin Grammar for High Schools*; pp. 183. Chicago: Loyola University Press, 1937. \$1.00

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